

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A software program providing system for providing and managing access to a software program, said system comprising:

a removable storage medium for storing ~~said the~~ software program and for storing an individual identification code ~~for that identifies~~ syng said removable storage medium;

a user terminal for installing said removable storage medium therein and for accessing ~~said the~~ software program stored in said removable storage medium;

database management means for storing a database that includes ~~ing~~ individual information of a user, information regarding a range of access limitations to ~~said the~~ software program, and information regarding a condition of access to ~~said the~~ software program, ~~wherein said the~~ database ~~is being searchable~~ eed using ~~said the~~ individual identification code as a search key, ~~wherein said the~~ information regarding ~~said the~~ range of access limitations ~~includes~~ a plurality of supplemental pay functions, and ~~said the~~ information regarding ~~said the~~ condition of access ~~includes~~ an associated number of purchased counts and an associated number of used counts for a given one of the plurality of supplemental pay functions, the associated number of purchased counts indicating the number of prepaid accesses to the given one of the plurality of supplemental pay functions and the associated number of used counts indicating the number of prior accesses to the given one of the plurality of supplemental pay functions, said database management means ~~further comprises including:~~

fee charging means for charging a fee ~~for to~~ adding to the associated number of purchased counts ~~only to access a selected for the given one of said~~

the plurality of supplemental pay functions, ~~wherein~~
~~said the~~ software program ~~is being~~ accessed for free
unless access to the given one of ~~said the~~ plurality
of pay functions is requested; and

information communication means for connecting said
database management means with said user terminal; ~~wherein~~

said software program providing system authorizes
said user terminal to access ~~said the~~ software program
stored in said removable storage medium based on ~~said the~~
information regarding ~~said the~~ range of access limitations,
~~said the~~ associated number of purchased counts exceeding
the associated number of used counts ~~information regarding~~
~~said condition of access to said software program~~, and ~~said~~
the information searched using ~~said the~~ individual
identification code as ~~said the~~ search key, said database
management means reading ~~said the~~ individual identification
code from said removable storage medium installed in said
user terminal through said information communication means,
and

said user terminal includes a display having a
graphical-unit-interface for enabling a user to select
between free access to ~~said the~~ software program and paid
access to ~~said the~~ software program including ~~said a~~
selected one of ~~said the~~ plurality of supplemental pay
functions.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The software program
providing system according to claim 1, wherein said information
communication means further comprises ciphering means for
ciphering communication between said database and said user
terminal.

4. (currently amended) The software program providing
system according to claim 1, wherein said storage means further

comprises a DVD-ROM, and ~~said the~~ individual identification code includes a BCA code recorded ~~through using~~ a laser beam during a fabrication process of ~~said the~~ individual identification code.

5. - 9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) A software program providing system for providing and managing access to a software program, said system comprising:

a removable storage medium for storing ~~said the~~ software program and for storing an individual identification code ~~for that identifies~~ said removable storage medium;

a user terminal for installing said removable storage medium therein and for accessing ~~said the~~ software program stored in said removable storage medium;

database management means for storing a database that includes individual information of a user, information regarding a range of access limitations to ~~said the~~ software program including a plurality of supplemental pay functions, and information regarding a condition of access to ~~said the~~ software program, ~~wherein said the~~ database is being searchable using ~~said the~~ individual identification code as a search key, ~~wherein said~~ database management means ~~further comprises including~~:

fee charging means for charging a fee to modify the information regarding a condition of access to the software program by obtaining a number of prepaid accesses to only to access a selected one of ~~said the~~ plurality of supplemental pay functions, ~~wherein said the~~ software program is being accessed for free unless access to one of ~~said the~~ plurality of pay functions is requested; and

information communication means for connecting said database management means with said user terminal; ~~wherein~~

said software program providing system authorizinges said user terminal to access ~~said—the~~ software program stored in said removable storage medium based on ~~said—the~~ information regarding ~~said—the~~ range of access limitations, ~~said—the~~ number of prepaid accesses to the selected one of the plurality of supplemental pay functions exceeding the number of prior accesses to the selected one of the plurality of supplemental pay functions~~information~~ regarding ~~said—condition of access to said—software program~~, and ~~said—the~~ information searched using ~~said—the~~ individual identification code as ~~said—the~~ search key, said database management means reading ~~said—the~~ individual identification code from said removable storage medium installed in said user terminal through said information communication means, and

said user terminal includinges a display having a graphical-unit-interface for enabling a user to select between free access to ~~said—the~~ software program and paid access to ~~said—the~~ software program including ~~said—the~~ selected one of ~~said—the~~ plurality of supplemental pay functions.